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09/541,001	03/31/2000	James S. Bratsanos	E-989	1962

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EXAMINER

PHAM, THIERRY L

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2624

DATE MAILED: 11/05/2003

6

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/541,001

Applicant(s)

BRATSANOS ET AL.

Examiner

Thierry L Pham

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on ____.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-20 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) ____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-20 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) ____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on ____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on ____ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.
- If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 13) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. ____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
- a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) ____.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). ____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

1. Claims 11-18 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Cordery (U.S. Patent. No. 5628249).

1. Regarding claim 11, Cordery discloses a document printing system (Fig. 4) having at least two printers (ref# 124 and 119, Fig. 4) and a single input/output port (host interface, Fig. 4), said system comprising:

(a) a first document designer application (Microsoft Word, col. 2, lines 1-14 and col. 3, lines 40-52) for preparing a document to be printed in at least a first portion (name, col. 3, lines 40-52, Fig. 2) and a second portion (address, col. lines 40-52, Fig. 2) and wherein said preparation results in a print stream (job data, col. 3, lines 40-52);

(b) a second designer application (Microsoft Word, col. 3, lines 40-52) for:

(i) displaying (col. 3, lines 1-10) via an a set of data fields (job name, col. 3, lines 1-10) of said second portion to a system user (operator interface, Fig. 4);

(ii) reading a set of parameters created (reads by PDL interpreter, Fig. 4, col. 3, lines 24-36) by said second designer application; and

(iii) writing (sending Job Data, Fig. 4) said second portion to a printer driver (print engine driver, Fig. 4) ;

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(c) a print stream monitor (Production Monitor/Controller, Fig. 4) for:

(i) scanning said print stream to detect (detects by Production Monitor/Controller, Fig. 4, col. 6, lines 35-48) a set of first portion data and a set of second portion data; and

(ii) modifying said print stream to merge (merge using Microsoft Word, col. 3, lines 40-52 and Fig. 2) said set of first portion data and said set of second portion data;

(d) a control page parser (parser, Fig. 4, col. 5, lines 45-57) for detecting, parsing, and then extracting (address data extraction, col. 3, lines 24-36) said first portion data from said print stream;

(e) a second portion parser for detecting, parsing, and then extracting said second portion data from said print stream (it is inherent that parser as described above (part d above) is also capable of performing the limitations as recited in this subsection (part e);

(f) a first printer command language (PCL) generator for converting said print stream into a first portion printer language (PDL Interpreter, Fig. 4, col. 3, lines 24-36 and col. 5, lines 45-58);

(g) a second (PCL) generator for converting said second portion as extracted from said print stream into a second printer (it is inherent that the PCL as described above is capable of perform the extraction of print data into printer language, Fig. 4, col. 3, lines 24-36 and col. 5, lines 45-58).

(h) a first printer driver (print engine driver, Fig. 4) for causing said first printer to print, utilizing said first portion printer command language, said first portion data to one or more sheets (envelops, col. 2, lines 1-14); and

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(i) a second printer driver (envelop printer driver, Fig. 4) for causing said second printer to print, utilizing said second printer command language, said second portion data to a substrate (envelop, col. 2, lines 1-14).

2. Regarding claim 12, Cordery further discloses a printing system, wherein said first document designer application is a 32-bit WINDOWS automation server. It is known in the art that Microsoft Word is licensed under Microsoft Corporation and can be operated by using Windows Automation Server (also licensed by Microsoft), and Windows automation server is known widely used to serve many applications (such as mailpiece designer application).

3. Regarding claim 13, Cordery further discloses a printing system, wherein said first document designer application (Microsoft Word, col. 3, lines 40-52) is capable of creating and/or modifying a mailpiece definition file and storing and/or retrieving one or more mailpiece definition files wherein each of said files corresponds to a specific mail print run (It is known in the art that Microsoft Word is capable of creating and/or modifying any word documents (including mailpiece definition files) and storing and/or retrieving mailpiece definition files).

4. Regarding claim 14, Cordery further discloses a printing system, wherein said document designer application is for producing one or more mailpieces (Fig. 2) and wherein said first portion comprises document data (ref. #36, Fig. 2) and said second portion comprises envelope data (ref. #32, Fig. 2).

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5. Regarding claim 15, Cordery further discloses a printing system, wherein said set of data fields is representative of the face of an envelope (envelop data field, Fig. 1, col. 3, lines 10-36).

6. Regarding claim 16, Cordery further discloses a printing system, wherein said set of data fields further comprises an addressee print field (envelop data field such as address, col. 3, lines 10-36, Fig. 2).

7. Regarding claim 17, Cordery further discloses a printing system, wherein said set of data fields further comprises an indicia print field (envelop data field such as name, col. 3, lines 10-36, Fig. 2).

8. Regarding claim 18, Cordery further discloses a printing system, wherein said second portion data is converted by a document printer command language (PDL Interpreter, Fig. 4) generator into an envelope printer language (prints by Envelop Printer, Fig. 4, col. 3, lines 24-36 and col. 5, lines 45-58).

9. Claims 19-20 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Cordery (U.S. Patent. No. 5628249).

Regarding claim 19, Cordery discloses a mailpiece creation system having (Fig. 4) a first printer (Document Printer, Fig. 4, col. 1, lines 60-67 and col. 2, lines 1-14) and a second printer (Envelop printer, Fig. 4, col. 1, lines 60-67 and col. 2, lines 1-14) and a single input/output port (host interface, Fig. 4), said system comprising:

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- (a) a host computer (Fig. 3) having a mailpiece designer application (Microsoft Word, col. 3, lines 41-52) for generating a print stream (job data, col. 3, lines 41-52) and wherein said print stream is representative of said mailpiece (address data, col. 3, lines 41-52 and Fig. 2);
- (b) an envelope designer application (Microsoft Word, col. 3, lines 41-52) for:
 - (i) displaying (col. 3, lines 1-10) a set of envelope data fields (job name, col. 3, lines 1-10) to a system user (operator interface, Fig. 4);
 - (ii) reading a set of envelope parameters (reads by PDL interpreter, Fig. 4, col. 3, lines 24-36) created by said envelope designer application; and
 - (iii) writing (sending Job Data, Fig. 4) said envelope to a printer driver (print engine driver, Fig. 4);
- (c) a print stream monitor (Production Monitor/Controller, Fig. 4) for:
 - (i) scanning said print stream to detect (detects by Production Monitor/Controller, Fig. 4, col. 6, lines 35-48) address data resident in said print stream and control page or control mark data resident in said print stream; and
 - (ii) modifying said print stream to merge (merge using Microsoft Word, col. 3, lines 40-52 and Fig. 2) a set of document page data and a set of address data;
- (d) a control page parser (parser, Fig. 4, col. 5, lines 45-57) for detecting, parsing, and then extracting (address data extraction, col. 3, lines 24-36) said document page data from said print stream;
- (e) an addressing parser (parser, Fig. 4, col. 3, lines 40-52 and col. 5, lines 45-57) for detecting, parsing, and then extracting address data from said print stream;

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- (f) a document printer command language (PDL Interpreter, Fig. 4) generator for converting said print stream into a document printer language;
- (g) an envelope (PDL Interpreter, Fig. 4, col. 3, lines 24-36) generator for converting text addresses extracted from said print stream into an envelope printer language;
- (h) a first printer driver (Envelop Printer Driver, Fig. 4) for causing said first printer to print said address data to an envelope utilizing said envelope printer language; and
- (i) a second printer driver (Print Engine Driver, Fig. 4) for causing said second printer to print said document data to one or more sheets utilizing said document printer language.

10. Regarding claim 20, Cordery further discloses the mailpiece creation system, wherein an envelope printer device context (envelop print data, col. 3, lines 24-67) is established to allow said address data to be printed to said second printer driver for printing to said envelope.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

- 1. Claims 1-9 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Brown et al (U.S. 6337743), and to Cordery et al (U.S. Pat. 5628249).

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2. Regarding claim 1, Brown discloses a method of modifying print stream data in a printing system, said method comprising the steps of:

(b) determining, in a document driver kernel, whether or not said print stream comprises text data (address data, Fig. 6, col. 5, lines 4-9 and col. 6, lines 53-58), and:

(i) if said print stream comprises text data then tagging said text data (place into an address list, col. 9, lines 45-46) and sending said tagged text data to a user mode module (monitor, Fig. 2B, col. 6, lines 59-60); or

(ii) if said print stream does not comprise text data then sending said print stream directly to a data injection (printer, col. 6, line 64) step;

(c) storing said tagged text in a local buffer (the identified address data is then saved in a database, col. 6, lines 56-58, Fig. 4);

(d) retrieving said tagged text from said local buffer and determining whether or not an address (col. 6, lines 53-64) is contained within said tagged text, and:

(ii) if an address is not found then sending said tagged text directly to said data injection step (output device, Fig. 6);

(g) transmitting (transmits by modem, Fig. 3A) said print stream to a next destination (Printer, Fig. 3A).

However, Brown does not disclose expressly a method of modifying print stream data in a printing system, wherein the method comprising the steps of:

(a) sending a print stream from a data processing application to a print spooler;

(i) if an address is found in said tagged text, then placing said address in an envelope print format to create an envelope data set; and

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- (e) creating an envelope printer device context and transmitting said envelope data set to an envelope kernel for creating an envelope printer device language file and then printing said envelope data set;
- (f) reading said printer device language and then injecting said envelope data set into said print stream; and

Cordery, in the same field of endeavor for modifying print stream data, discloses:

- (a) sending a print stream (job data, Fig. 4) from a data processing application (Word Processing Application, Fig. 2) to a print spooler (PDL Interpreter, Fig. 4);
- (i) if an address is found in said tagged text, then placing said address in an envelope print format to create an envelope data set (envelop data buffer, Fig. 4, col. 3, lines 31-36); and
- (e) creating an envelope printer device context (envelop data, col. 3, lines 11-23) and transmitting said envelope data set to an envelope kernel (envelop data buffer, Fig. 4) for creating an envelope printer device language file and then printing said envelope data set (envelop printer, Fig. 4, col. 3, lines 24-36);
- (f) reading said printer device language (PDL Interpreter, Fig. 4) and then injecting said envelope data set into said print stream (Envelop Data Buffer and Envelop Printer Driver, Fig. 4).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention was made to modify Brown's invention as per teachings of Cordery because of a following reason: (1) to provide higher quality printing of the address and in reducing the footprint of the apparatus.

Therefore, it would have been obvious to combine Cordery with Brown to obtain the invention as specified in claim 1.

2. Regarding claim 2, Brown further discloses a method of modifying print stream data in a printing system, wherein said print stream is passed through a graphical device interface (GDI) when being sent from said data processing application to said print spooler to form a GDI print stream (Fig. 4, col. 6, lines 49-64).

3. Regarding claim 3, Brown further discloses a method of modifying print stream data in a printing system, wherein said print stream comprises control data (username, number of pages, col. 10, lines 25-28).

4. Regarding claim 4, Cordery further discloses a method of modifying print stream data in a printing system, wherein said local buffer stores said tagged text until at least one end-of-page control mark (end of job marker, Fig. 1, col. 3, lines 37-40 and col. 4, lines 39-49) is received in said local buffer.

5. Regarding claim 5, Cordery further discloses a method of modifying print stream data in a printing system, wherein said tagged text stored in said local buffer cannot be retrieved until said stored tagged text has received an end of page control mark (an end-of-job code is detected and the controller recognizes that the last envelop is in drying buffer, col. 6, lines 49-67 and col. 7, lines 1-7) for said stored tagged text sought to be retrieved.

6. Regarding claim 6, Cordery further discloses a method of modifying print stream data in a printing system, wherein said data processing application is a mailpiece designer application (Microsoft Word Processing Application, col. 3, lines 40-67 and col. 4, lines 1-6).

7. Regarding claim 7, Cordery further discloses a method of modifying print stream data in a printing system, wherein said mailpiece designer application is capable of presenting a data entry screen to a system user for performing the further steps of:

- (a) creating and/or modifying a mailpiece definition file (col. 3, lines 40-52); and
- (b) storing and/or retrieving one or more mailpiece definition files wherein each of said files corresponds to a specific mail print run (col. 3, lines 40-52). It is known in the art that Microsoft Word is capable of creating and/or modifying any word documents (including mailpiece definition files) and storing and/or retrieving mailpiece definition files.

8. Regarding claim 8, Cordery further discloses a method of modifying print stream data in a printing system, wherein said print stream comprises a control page wizard (job header, col. 2, lines 54-67).

9. Regarding claim 9, Cordery further discloses a method of modifying print stream data in a printing system, wherein said control page wizard is utilized to facilitate mail merge functionality (Fig. 2, col. 3, lines 40-52) within said printing system.

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10. Regarding claim 10, Cordery further discloses a method of modifying print stream data in a printing system, wherein said GDI print stream is converted by a document printer command language (PCL) generator into an envelope printer language (PDL, Fig. 4 and Envelop Printer Driver, col. 5, lines 46-58).

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Thierry L Pham whose telephone number is (703) 305-1897. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F (8:30 AM - 5:00 PM).

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, David K Moore can be reached on (703)308-7452. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is (703) 872-9306.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (703)305-3900.

Thierry L. Pham

TP

Oct. 20, 2003

David K Moore